

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for managing a market for collateralized loans, comprising:
a database comprised of entries of borrowing and lending information,
wherein each entry for borrowing information includes data identifying a desired loan
asset, data identifying collateral for the desired loan asset, and a unique
identification of a borrower, and wherein each entry for lending information includes
a unique identification of a lender and data specifying conditions under which the
lender will supply a loan to a borrower, and wherein the borrowing and lending
information from the database is made available to borrowers and lenders; and
a computer for maintaining and querying the database and for receiving a
query, and in response to the query, the computer:

determining whether the query constitutes an offer to borrow or an
offer to lend an asset,

based on a result of the determination, locating in the database a set of
entries that match attributes of the offer,

upon locating a match, creating a secured loan between any borrowers
or lenders identified by the set of entries that match attributes of the offer and a
borrower or lender specified by the offer, using any collateral identified in the set of
entries that match attributes of the offer when it is determined that the query
constitutes an offer to lend an asset and collateral identified in the query when it is
determined that the query constitutes an offer to borrow, regardless of any
determination concerning whether the borrower is able to repay the secured loan,
and

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notifying parties concerning the secured loan.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the computer further performs:
servicing the secured loan according to the data specifying conditions under which the lender will supply a loan to a borrower.

3. A method of creating a market for collateralized loans comprising:
receiving a plurality of offers to borrow, wherein each offer to borrow has attributes including a desired loaned asset, a fungible collateral asset, and a borrower identity;
providing, to a plurality of lenders, information about the plurality of offers to borrow;
receiving a plurality of offers to lend, wherein each offer to lend has attributes including a loaned asset, a desired fungible collateral asset, and a lender identity;
providing, to a plurality of borrowers, information about the plurality of offers to lend;
matching an offer to lend from the plurality of offers to lend with an offer to borrow from the plurality of offers to borrow based solely on the attributes of the offer to lend and the attributes of the offer to borrow; and
creating a secured loan between a lender and a borrower if the lender's offer to lend matches the borrower's offer to borrow.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

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servicing the secured loan according to the attributes of the lender's offer to lend and the attributes of the borrower's offer to borrow.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein servicing the secured loan further comprises:

monitoring a value of the fungible collateral asset periodically; and
requesting an additional fungible collateral asset from the borrower if the value of the fungible collateral asset is less than a predetermined value.

6. The method of claim 4, wherein the secured loan has a term and wherein servicing the secured loan further comprises:

determining whether the secured loan has reached maturity according to the loan term;

determining whether the borrower has provided the loaned asset and a loan fee, when the loan reaches maturity; and

transferring the fungible collateral asset to the lender if the borrower has not provided the loaned asset and a loan fee when the loan reaches maturity.

7. The method of claim 3, wherein creating a secured loan further comprises:

transferring the loaned asset from the lender to an operator; and

transferring the loaned asset from the operator to a borrower.

8. The method of claim 3, wherein matching further comprises:

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comparing the attributes of an offer to lend to the attributes of each of the plurality of offers to borrow when the offer to lend is received.

9. The method of claim 3, wherein matching further comprises:

comparing the attributes of each of the received plurality of offers to lend to the attributes of each of the plurality of offers to borrow at a predetermined time.

10. The method of claim 3, wherein the fungible collateral asset is a specified quantity of a specified homogenous asset, and wherein the specified homogenous asset is one of the group comprising: a specific common stock, a specific bond, and cash.

11. The method of claim 3, wherein the fungible collateral asset is a portfolio of various fungible assets.

12. A system for creating a market for collateralized loans comprising:

means for receiving a plurality of offers to borrow, wherein each offer to borrow has attributes including a desired loaned asset, a fungible collateral asset, and a borrower identity;

means for providing, to a plurality of lenders, information about the plurality of offers to borrow;

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means for receiving a plurality of offers to lend, wherein each offer to lend has attributes including a loaned asset, a desired fungible collateral asset, and a lender identity;

means for providing, to a plurality of borrowers, information about the plurality of offers to lend;

means for matching an offer to lend from the plurality of offers to lend with an offer to borrow from the plurality of offers to borrow based solely on the attributes of the offer to lend and the attributes of the offer to borrow; and

means for creating a secured loan between a lender and a borrower if the lender's offer to lend matches the borrower's offer to borrow.

13. The system of claim 12, further comprising:

means for servicing the secured loan according to the attributes of the lender's offer to lend and the attributes of the borrower's offer to borrow.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the means for servicing the secured loan further comprises:

means for monitoring a value of the fungible collateral asset periodically; and

means for requesting an additional fungible collateral asset from the borrower if the value of the fungible collateral asset is less than a predetermined value.

15. The system of claim 13, wherein the secured loan has a term and

wherein the means for servicing the secured loan further comprises:

means for determining whether the secured loan has reached maturity according to the loan term;

means for determining whether the borrower has provided the loaned asset and a loan fee, when the loan reaches maturity; and

means for transferring the fungible collateral asset to the lender if the borrower has not provided the loaned asset and a loan fee when the loan reaches maturity.

16. The system of claim 12, wherein the means for creating a secured loan further comprises:

means for transferring the loaned asset from the lender to an operator; and

means for transferring the loaned asset from the operator to a borrower.

17. The system of claim 12, wherein the means for matching further comprises:

means for comparing the attributes of an offer to lend to the attributes of each of the plurality of offers to borrow when the offer to lend is received.

18. The system of claim 12, wherein the means for matching further comprises:

means for comparing the attributes of each of the received plurality of offers to lend to the attributes of each of the plurality of offers to borrow at a predetermined time.

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19. The system of claim 12, wherein the fungible collateral asset is one of the group comprising: a specific common stock, a specific bond, cash, and a portfolio of various fungible assets.

20. A computer program product for creating a market for collateralized loans including code for causing a processor to perform a process comprising:

receiving a plurality of offers to borrow, wherein each offer to borrow has attributes including a desired loaned asset, a fungible collateral asset, and a borrower identity;

providing, to a plurality of lenders, information about the plurality of offers to borrow;

receiving a plurality of offers to lend, wherein each offer to lend has attributes including a loaned asset, a desired fungible collateral asset, and a lender identity;

providing, to a plurality of borrowers, information about the plurality of offers to lend;

matching an offer to lend from the plurality of offers to lend with an offer to borrow from the plurality of offers to borrow based solely on the attributes of the offer to lend and the attributes of the offer to borrow; and

creating a secured loan between a lender and a borrower if the lender's offer to lend matches the borrower's offer to borrow.

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